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LETTER DATED 9 MARCH 1995 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

On instructions from my Government and pursuant to the letter sent to you on 22 January 1995 (S/1995/69), I have the honour to inform you that United States warships anchored in the Gulf are continuing their acts of provocation against Iraqi vessels, both fishing boats and tankers carrying water and fuel. At 1330 hours, the United States warship bearing the number 33 inspected the Iraqi fishing vessel Bia, which was fishing in Iraqi territorial waters (nine miles south of the port of Al-Bakr). The Iraqi vessel was forced to approach to a distance of 500 yards of the United States vessel. Its crew was then asked to give information regarding the vessel's cargo, its length and speed, the number of containers, and so forth. On 2 February 1995, the United States warship bearing the number 40 carried out an identical operation. These acts confirm the hostile intentions of the United States Government against Iraq and demonstrate the persistence of United States provocations within Iraqi territorial waters which are aimed at supplying pretexts to justify such acts.

I request you to intervene, in accordance with the responsibilities entrusted to you under the Charter of the United Nations, so that such unwarranted acts, which constitute an impediment to peace, security and stability in the region, may be halted.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Nizar HAMDOON
Permanent Representative

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